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least do no harm to remember this possibility when examining the facts.

THOMAS MEEHAN.

GERMANTOWN, OCT. 16.

§ 265. **Rediscovery of *Shortia*.**—In examining a package of plants from Mr. M. E. Hyams, of Statesville, North Carolina, I had the extreme happiness of finding a specimen of *SHORTIA GALACIOLIA*, Gray. This discovery is confirmed by Prof. Gray, who has seen the only two specimens yet found. The plant was discovered last year in McDowell Co., N. C., by Mr. H.'s son, a lad of about thirteen years. This re-discovery of a plant so rare that heretofore only one known specimen existed, that at the Jardin des Plantes, in Michaux's herbarium, which is preserved there, is certainly one of the most important botanical discoveries of the age. Mr. Hyams expects to gather the plant another season, and will probably have specimens for sale at a reasonable price.

J. W. CONGDON.

§ 266. ***Aspidium marginale*, Swartz.**—I have found in several localities in this State forms of a fern which do not agree with any description of *A. marginale*, Sw., that I have seen, and yet resemble it in manner of growth and general appearance of fruit; so I suggest the propriety of regarding it as a distinct variety. I submit the following description:

Stipe 1'-3' long, with copious tuft of lanceolate ferruginous scales at the base; frond 4'-6' long, 1½'-3' wide, once pinnate with lower pinnae deeply pinnatifid, upper merely lobed. Sori usually one at each sinus, rarely two, one on each side of pinnule, Jamesville, N. Y.; Stockbridge, N. Y.; Chittenango Falls, N. Y., growing on limestone cliffs. Specimens have also been sent me from Worcester, Mass. Two mature specimens in my collection, fully fruited, are only five and one-half inches above the rootstock.

LUCIEN M. UNDERWOOD.

CAZENOVIA, N. Y., Oct., 1878.

§ 267. **Ferns of New York State.**—Mr. Benjamin D. Gilbert, in the *Utica Herald* of October 18th, in a notice of Mr. Williamson's "Ferns of Kentucky," writes as follows:

An examination of this volume naturally suggests a comparison of the Kentucky ferns with those of our own State. Mr. Williamson describes 41 species and varieties, of which two have not as yet been found in his State, but are included because a more thorough search will be likely to discover them there. One of these is the very rare *Cheilanthes tomentosa*, Link, a native of both Tennessee and North Carolina, not far from the borders of Kentucky. The other is *Woodsia Ilvensis*, R., Br., which, although belonging farther north, the author thinks may possibly occur among the mountains of Kentucky. This fern is common in New York State, growing upon ledges of rock. One other fern, *Aspidium cristatum*, Swartz, is placed in the book on the authority of a young lady who reported it from a single locality, although Prof. Hussey afterward searched the locality named without success. This fern also grows in New York State, and is met with frequently in swamps, both in the Mohawk valley